

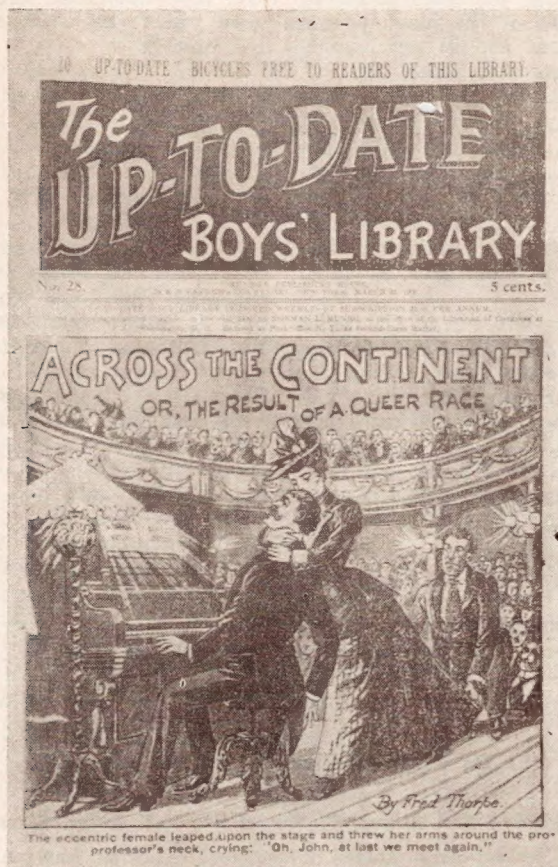
DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Vol. 27 No. 8

August 15, 1959

Whole No. 323



DIME NOVEL SKETCHES #5 UP-TO-DATE BOYS' LIBRARY

The only colored cover weekly issued by Norman L. Munro. It replaced the Old Cap Collier Library which had run 822 issues. It lasted only 40 issues, the competition from Frank Tousey and Street & Smith being too keen. The first issue was dated September 23, 1899, the last, No. 40, June 23, 1900. The stories were all reprints of serials appearing in Golden Hours.

Old English Journals for Boys

"COMRADES"

by W. M. Burns

Comrades was a fine journal for boys running to good robust stories, not to be classed as one of the so-called "fierce" journals, but also not to be classed as one of the "goody-goody" papers such as Boys Own Paper, Union Jack, etc. In fact it seems as if the publisher tried to follow a "middle of the road" course with the journal, and in my humble opinion he succeeded admirably.

The publisher and editor was Charles Shurey, Caxton House, 11 Gough Square, Fleet St., E. C., London. Comrades was, I believe, his first venture into the field of publishing a boys journal. Possibly, his first venture in the publishing field at all. No. 1, of Comrades, is dated Jan. 17, 1898.

I have a complete run of Comrades which ran to 63 issues. It started out as a 16 page paper selling for one penny per copy. Starting with No. 9 the paper was enlarged to 24 pages, plus an 8 page supplement, making a total of 32 pages per issue with no advance in price. The 32 page issues continued to the end of the journal.

Comrades was printed on a poor grade of paper. My set, when I

bought it, was bound into monthly parts. Still they were brittle and a bit "flakey." So I rebound them, taking two monthly parts and binding them in one volume, with heavy colored paper covers. I now note that they do not flake any more and will now doubtless keep for many more years yet, and deteriorate far less quickly.

Shurey, like most other publishers of boys journals, advertised only his own publications with no other advertising whatever. Journals that started after Comrades appeared is Monster Comics, first issue dated, Mar. 9, 1898.

Next to appear was Home Bits, first issue dated May 10, 1898. Then appeared The Royal Novelette sometime in September 1898. Next was The Dutchess Novelette which appeared around Nov. or Dec. 1898. They came Boys Monster Weekly with first issue dated Feb. 27, 1899. It's possible that Shurey brought out other publications after Boys Monster Weekly, but if so, I have no knowledge of them.

Comrades contained very fine stories for boys, many of which were historical tales. Here's a list of these.

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Edward T. LeBlanc, 87 School St., Fall River, Mass.

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Ralph F. Cummings, Fisherville, Mass.

Asst. Ed. Photography—Charles Duprez, 228 Larch Lane, Smithtown, L.I., N.Y.

Ad Rates — 6c per word, \$1.00 per inch, quarter page \$2.25, half page \$3.00 and Full Page \$5.00. — 4 times for the price of three.

Ads should be submitted by the 15th of the month in order to assure publication in the following month's issue.

I am giving author's name when given with the story.

"A True British Sailor Boy; or, Englands Hearts of Oak," by Charlton, "Warwick; or, The Flower of Chivalry," by Brenchley Beaumont, "Drummer Boy Dick; or, The Son of the Regiment," "The Three Cavaliers; or, The Champions of Mary Queen of Scots," by Ernest Brent, "Philip Devon, the Young Lieutenant," by Charlton, "Caradoc the Briton; or, The Young Gladiator," by Charles Stevens, "Valorous Joe; or, Halt! Who Comes There," by John Holloway, "Alfred of England; or, Our Islands Pride," by Brenchley Beaumont, "Boadicea; or, The Warrior Queen," by Brenchley Beaumont.

Ralph Rollington had no less than five stories in Comrades. A very prolific writer, to say the least. The five stories were as follows: "Notes from My School Diary," "Romance and Reality; or, Dick Darlington," "Cousin Dick's Schooldays; or, The Rival Houses of York and Lancaster," "Gordon Goodfellow at Thucydides Academy," and "Peter Podger and Sam Slocum."

A very fine book length Highwayman tale is "Wild Dick; or, The Midnight Rider." No author's name given. It is a Dick Turpin story, needless to state. Three detective stories are "The Death Tracker; or, The Dark Detective of the Diggings," "The Schoolboy Detective" and "Tiger Tom; or, The Young Detective in London." No authors name to any of the three.

School stories not mentioned so far are "Timothy Twisters Schooldays," "Born to Victory; or, Shall He Be Leader?" by Vane St. John, "Happy Hal; or, True to the Core," etc.

Three good sea stories are "Alfred Harwood; or, The Youthful Yachtsman," by A. J. Maitland R.N., "Cast Away," by J. Edwin Arnold and "The Sunken Treasure."

Stories not mentioned so far are, "For Life and Fortune," by Leon Lewis, "The Wonder Seeker; or, The King of the Elements," "Disinherit-

ed; or, A Fight for the Good Old Name," "Only a Street Boy," etc.

Comrades contained a few short fact articles, but all were very short and not very numerous.

There were numberless short stories in the run, many of them running under a general heading such as "Stories Around the Campfire," "Leaves from a Dominies Note Book," "Tough Yarns by An Old Salt," "Tales of Daring and Adventure," and "Stories of My Old School Chums." I believe that the latter series to have been written by Ralph Rollington as it reads very much like Rollington's work.

The front page illustration usually, but not always, was a full page one. And there were from three to five half page ones and now and then one or two smaller ones.

Comrades ran to Vol. 2, No. 14. A run of 63 issues. Last number was dated Feb. 27, 1899. The next week the Boys Monster Weekly appeared with no change whatever except the change in the masthead but the numbering was changed back to Vol. I, No. 1. The last issue of Comrades carried seven unfinished stories and at the ending of each installment notice was given that the stories would be continued in Boys Monster Weekly, Vol. I, No. 1.

The seven unfinished stories were "Valorous Joe," "Gordon Goodfellow," "Alfred Harwood," "Boadicea," "Happy Hal," "Alfred of England," and "Peter Podger and Sam Slocum."

I have only three or four issues of Boys Monster Weekly and one of them is Vol. I, No. 1. The only story in it that is continued from the last issue of Comrades is "Peter Podger and Sam Slocum." All other stories in it are the starting of new stories. However, in Boys Monster Weekly No. 5 is the ending of "Alfred of England." Also in No. 5, is a small notice to the effect that all stories not ending in Comrades would be continued and ended in future issues of Boys Monster Weekly.

I note that in the early issues of Boys Monster Weekly appear two

stories reprinted from Fox's Boys Standard. The two stories are "Life of Vidoc, the Great French Detective" and "The True Story of the Corsican Brothers."

I do not know if this practice of reprinting from the Fox journals was kept up, or not, in the higher numbered Boys Monster Weekly, but if so, it's all to the good, in my opinion.

Since writing the above I have been looking over my vol. 8 of Rollington's (Allingham's) Boys World, and I note an ad in it appearing in a number of issues listing a series of books called The Boys World Six Penny Volumes running to 128 pages each.

There are 10 books listed and 7 of the 10 stories are reprinted in Comrades, as follows: "Gordon Goodfellow," "A True British Sailor Boy," "Philip Devon, the Young Lieutenant," "Peter Podger and Sam Slocum," "Cousin Dick's Schooldays," "Drummer Boy Dick" and "Warwick, the Flower of Chivalry."

The Vol. 8, Boys World is dated 1885-6, and the above stories might well have appeared in earlier Boys World, as serial stories.

As stated before, Comrades ran to 63 issues then name changed to Boys Monster Weekly for a further run of 45 issues.

Comrades and Boys Monster Weekly both were very fine papers, equal to, and ever far superior, to many journals of that day. Just why they folded up is a mystery to me. They surely deserved a better fate. Probably keen competition from other publishers forced them to the wall.

FAVORITES OF YESTERDAY ANNA BARTLETT WARNER

By Hermon Pitcher

In the year of 1885 there died in New York City an author whose novels, "The Wide, Wide World," and "Queechy," had unusual fame, as they came to immense numbers, and circulated abroad, having been trans-

lated into the French, German, and Swedish tongues. This author was Susan Warner, who wrote under the pseudonym of "Elizabeth Wetherell."

Her sister, Anna Bartlett Warner, also possessed literary talents, and achieved fame through their collaboration, of which, "Say and Seal," was the first. Other books under this joint authorship followed, and later Anna wrote some books herself under the pseudonym of "Amy Lathrop."

Some of these were: "Dollars and Cents," "Miss Piller's Vegetable Garden," "Wych Hazel," "The Light of the Morning," "Cross Corners," and others. She was also the author of a number of hymns.

Miss Warner survived her sister by nearly thirty years. And at her home at Martlaer's Rock, on Constitution Island she lived very quietly and industriously. She was a thinker and a student all her life. She was fond of rowing, and was enthusiastic at gardening to the end of her life. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. In her middle life she was accorded the privileges of a member of the teaching staff of the academy of West Point.

So, studying and teaching, reading and writing, and gardening, Miss Warner passed her days very quietly. In 1910 she published a biography of her sister Susan, which contained a unique and interesting record of a typical Puritan family.

"It symbolizes the fading out of many a sturdy Puritan line in which the men have retained only the fineness, with a little of the efficiency of the stock, while the women have transmuted into a sort of feeble spirituality, the vital energy that their mothers gave to the perpetuation of the race."

Miss Anna Warner died in 1915 at the age of 57 years. Her funeral services at West Point were held with military honors, by "her boys," as she called the many cadets whom she came to know well, and who attended her Sunday School classes.

NEWSY NEWS

By Ralph F. Cummings
Fisherville, Mass.

"Fury," a monthly mag that sells at 35c—the Jan. 1959 issue, Vol. 23, No. 4, has a fine article on "Biggest Fight in the West," by Leonard Becker. All about the Youngers, the James Boys, Bill Chadwell, etc. up in Minnesota. Nicely illustrated. Also "Man's Conquest," another 25c magazine, Vol. 4, No. 3, August 1958 has an illustrated and fine story on "The Death of Billy the Kid." No author.

Ralph P. Smith is still doing business at the old stand!

J. P. Guinon gets a big kick out of his Tip Tops!

Peter Scallos's wife likes to collect old dolls.

Don S. Learnard had a great time down in Florida with both Charlie Daniel and L. D. Webster.

Charlie Duprez is having one bang up time with his parakeets!

Daredevil Dave Adams is raring to go, after his long sick spell.

Eli Messier has 2 sets of Merriwell Stories to sell.

Frank Schalt is back with the old gang of H. H. Bro. members again.

Clyde Wakefield digs up a prize now and then.

P. J. Moran likes a good Julia Edwards story now and then.

Ralph Cummings, that's myself, read a fine story in the Bob Brooks Library No. 7—Bob Brook in Boston, sure was a corker.

Don L. Steinhauer sure is building up a nice novel collection.

Remember, 10 years ago, when Ray Caldwell, George Hess, and others had the largest collection of old timers in existence?

Harlan Miller of Miller Print Shop used to read the old timers. (Still do occasionally—but not those in the

little type, H.M.)

Lou Kohrt made a trip up to Fisherville once more wanted me to go back with him. I'd have liked to have gone, but if I did, I guess I'd have had to walk back, for business at this time was very poor.

Lou and myself called on Ralph Smith, and found him in the middle of a plumbing job. Seems the pipes in the wall of his home gave away, and he has to have new fixtures all around. Just think, it could have happened when he was away, and if it did, Ralph would of found his home floating down the Merrimac, I'm afraid.

Bill Burns can't seem to get used to those crutches, he'd love to kick them out the door, if he didn't need them. Poor Bill.

Now that the nice warm weather is here, folks can get out more, and visit old friends, do some trading if they wish, and see the sights of America while they are about it.

I don't see but very little mention of the old timers in newspapers any more, I wonder why?

The Gold Bug, Box 396, Shenandoah, Iowa, C. W. Fishbaugh. Devoted to the collecting of presidential and political items. Issued quarterly \$1.00 per year. Subscribers in 29 states. Sample 25c.

Ray Mengar announces that hereafter all mail should be sent to his home instead of his office. Home address as follows:

RAYMOND MENGAR
3406 ELLIOTT STREET
SAN DIEGO 6, CALIFORNIA

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

- 234. Goodwin Goldfaden, Box 48577 Briggs Station, Los Angeles 48, Calif.
- 64. Robert Conahay, 261 Madison Ave., New York 16, N. Y. (New Add.)
- 37. Raymond Mengar, 3406 Elliott St., San Diego 6, Calif. (New Address)
- 105. Ross DeVean, P. O. Box 1036, Cathedral City, Calif. (New Address)

WANTED!

I need single copies of the following items—these must have front and back covers, all adv. pages, and be in very good to excellent condition. Please quote your price.

Oliver Optics Mag. "Our Boys & Girls"

Vol. 9 No. 210, Vol. 16 No. 257.

St. Nicholas

Vol. 1 No. 1, Vol. 2 No. 2, Vol. 10 No. 5, Vol. 13 No. 2, Vol. 19 No. 4, 11, Vol. 21 No. 2, Vol. 30 No. 1, Vol. 39 Nos. 1, 2, Vol. 40 Nos. 2, 3, 12, Vol. 41 Nos. 1, 5, 10, Vol. 45 No. 3.

The Argosy

Vol. 327 No. 5 (Nov. 1948), 6 (Dec. 1948), Vol. 328, Nos. 1 (Jan. 1949), 2 (Feb. 1949), Vol. 332 No. 4 (Apr. 1951).

Golden Library (pub. by Albert Sicley & Co.)

Vol. 2 Nos. 26, 33 to 40, 42, 43, 46, 48. Vol. 3 Nos. 50 to 58, 62, 63. Any numbers after No. 64 except Nos. 74 and 76.

Boys Dashaway Series (Geo. Munro's Sons)

Nos. 2, 19, 21 to 30, 32, 33, 34, 36 to 42.

Leather Clad Tales (Frank Lovell & Co.)

Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23 to 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 34, 36, 37, 38, 40.

Golden Days (James Elverson)

I have the following numbers which have one or both covers missing. I will buy these numbers WITH covers and also give seller my copy. Vol. 8 Nos. 38, 49. Vol. 9, Nos. 2, 3, 7, 8, 43, 48, 52. Vol. 11 Nos. 16, 20, 22, 25, 27, 32. Vol. 12 No. 1. Vol. 15 Nos. 34, 35, 36, 37, 47, 48, 49, 50. I lack the following numbers—must have covers. Vol. 8 No. 2, Vol. 15 Nos. 13 to 33, 38 to 46, 51, 52. Vol. 19 Nos. 49, 51. Vol. 20 Nos. 8 to 12, 15, 16, 18, 20 to 52. The following which I lack were issued without covers Vol. 22 Nos. 1-3, 13-15, 52. Vol. 25 Nos. 1-40, 49, 50. Vol. 26 Nos. 1-3, 5, 6, 8 to 22, 24 to 52. Vol. 27 Nos. 1-4, 26-39, 42-52. Also I will buy Vols. 22, 25, 26, 27, bound.

Frank Leslie's Boys of America

No. 48 Aug. 1877, 51 Nov. 1877, 52 Dec. 1877, 54 Feb. 1878, 56 April 1877, 58 June 1878.

I have hundreds of duplicate Golden Days, Harpers Young People, Oliver Optics Mag., etc. for sale or exchange. Send want lists.

Captain C. G. Mayo, U.S.N. Rtd.

Wild Acres, Huntington, Vermont

Reduced Prices On Rare Old Dime and Nickel Novels

BEADLE'S NEW YORK DIME LIBRARY: Many have a clipped corner; are beginning to brown, etc., but can still be classified as good. Only a few are in really poor condition and even these are readable. Priced from 25c to 75c each, according to condition and quantity purchased. Drop me a card with the numbers of those in which you are interested and I'll furnish complete description on each:

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Have about 300 dime novels in French, German and Spanish, including Buffalo Bills, Nick Carters, etc., also a large number of English novels, such as Hogarth House and Aldine publications. Further information on request.

Many of the items described in the May, June and July issues of the Roundup are still available. Also have a large number of clothbound books by Kirk Munroe, Oliver Optic, Tomlinson, Castlemon, and W. H. G. Kingston at very low prices.

J. P. GUINON

P. O. Box 214

Little Rock, Ark.

OLD STORY PAPERS

Family Story Paper #5 to 370. A few missing, a few poor, the balance good. Rare lot of early numbers.

Arm Chair (Tousey) #1 to 260, with #20 missing, #31 poor. \$50.

New York Ledger, Vols. 37, 38, 39, 40, 42 (folded in quarters). Each volume, \$10.00. Long run, Vols. 12 to 47 (36 years) \$350.

Western World, Vols. 12, 13, 14. \$5.00 each.

Optic's Our Boys and Girls. #97 to 209. \$20.

Girls & Boys of America (Munro) #51 to 112. \$40.

Youth's Companion. Vols. 50 to 55. \$2.50 each.

Chimney Corner. Vols. 22 to 29. \$40.

Fireside Companion. #313 to 1864. \$300.

Boys & Girls Weekly (Leslie) #773 to 798 bound, \$15.00. This is the large size. Some singles at 50c each.

Golden Argosy. Vols. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 23, and later.

Saturday Evening Post. Feb. 28, 1874 to Feb. 20, 1875. Large page, 23x16". Contains first appearance of "East Lynn." \$15.

Beadle's Banner Weekly. Vols. 7 to 15. (#313 to 758) in fine condition, look like new. \$275.

Boys of New York. #552 to 572, fair only, \$10.

Boys of New York. #690 to 727, mostly good, \$35.

Happy Days #937 to 1040, in four bound volumes, \$30.

New York Weekly. Vols. 36 to 40 (5 years). Average, good. \$45.

Golden Days. Vols. 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. Bound. \$3.50 each.

Saturday Night. Vols. 11, 17, 19, 21, 22. \$12.50 each.

Golden Hours. #221 to 312. \$60.

North American Weekly (1896) #1 to 100 bound. Shaken. \$5.

The Golden Prize. (1857) #320 to 371. Bound. \$10.

The Household (Vermont). Vols. 17, 18, 19 in one volume. Vols. 14, 15, 16 in one volume. (1881-1886). The lot, \$15.00.

Hearthstone. Vol. 3 #1 to 52. Vol. 4 #1 to 10. (62 nos.) \$12.

Home Circle. Vol. 5 (lacks #6 and 7). 50 numbers. \$8.50.

Forrester's Playmate (1857) 25c each.

Bicycling World (1896-1897) 25c each.

Life (old color comic weekly). Vol. 9 bound. (26 nos.) \$5. Vol. 8 bound. Several missing pages. (1886) \$2.50.

"A Plea for Old Cap Collier," by Irvin S. Cobb. \$1.25.

"Frank Merriwell's Art of Physical Development." 25c.

"Boys Will Be Boys." About old English boys' papers. \$3.00.

Postpaid.

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RALPH P. SMITH

Rox 985

Lawrence, Mass.